### Regulation 4018. AMOUNT OF <u>SECURITYBOND</u>.

Reference: Sections 30142, 30167, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) The amount of bondsecurity shall be fixed by the board. The board may increase or reduce the amount of bondsecurity at any time, but in no event shall the amount of bondsecurity be less than \$1,000. Where it appears that a distributor will be engaged in particular types of transactions which do not require the affixing of tax stamps or meter impressions, the amount of bond may be increased by an amount equal to twice the distributor's estimated monthly tax liability with respect to such types of transactions.
- (b) When a distributor is authorized to purchase stamps or meter register settings on the deferred payment basis, pursuant to the Cigarette Tax Law, his bond the security shall be fixed in an amount equal to no less than 70 percent of the amount, and no more than twice the amount, as fixed by the board, of deferred payment purchases which the distributor may have unpaid at any time.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended September 13, 1961.

Amended January 12, 1968.

### Regulation 4021. OPENING INVENTORY.

Reference: Sections 30182, 30453, 30454, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) Every distributor or wholesaler engaged in the sale of cigarettes shall take a physical inventory of cigarettes on hand as of the time he the distributor or wholesaler first engages in the sale of cigarettes as a distributor or wholesaler. A report of a first physical inventory taken shall be filed with the board on or before the 25th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the distributor or wholesaler first engages in the sale of cigarettes as a distributor or wholesaler.
- (b) Every wholesaler engaged in the sale of cigarettes as a wholesaler on November 13, 1968, shall take a physical inventory of cigarettes on hand at the beginning of business on that day. A report of the first physical inventory taken shall be filed with the board on or before the 26th day of December 1968. Every wholesaler who first engages in the sale of cigarettes after November 13, 1968, shall take a physical inventory of cigarettes on hand as of the time he first engages in the sale of cigarettes as a wholesaler. A report of a first physical inventory shall be filed with the board on or before the 25th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the wholesaler first engages in the sale of cigarettes as a wholesaler.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968.

#### **Regulation 4022. INVENTORIES OF CIGARETTES.**

Reference: Sections 30182, 30453, 30454, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every distributor and wholesaler engaged in the sale of cigarettes shall furnish with his monthly report to the board a monthly statement of the cigarettes on hand at the end of the month covered by the report. Physical inventories of cigarettes on hand shall be taken not less often than at three-month intervals and the statements shall be prepared from the physical inventories when physical inventories are taken. The statement of cigarettes on hand shall show the number of cigarettes on hand contained in packages to which tax stamps or meter impressions are affixed and the number not bearing tax stamps or meter impressions.

Every distributor and wholesaler engaged in the sale of cigarettes shall furnish with his or her monthly report to the board a statement of the cigarettes on hand at the end of the month covered by the report, showing the number of cigarettes on hand contained in packages to which tax stamps or meter impressions are affixed and the number not bearing tax stamps or meter impressions. The statement shall be furnished in one of the following manners:

(a) If the distributor or wholesaler has a cycle count inventory system and perpetual inventory system in place, the monthly statement shall be based on the perpetual inventory report run on the last business day of the month for which the distributor's or wholesaler's report is filed. However, at least once every calendar year, the monthly statement shall be based on a physical inventory of cigarettes on hand on the last business day of the month for which the distributor's or wholesaler's report is filed.

A "cycle count inventory system" is a system that provides evidence that all cigarettes are counted on a regular basis, with each item being counted at least once every three-month period.

A "perpetual inventory system" is a system in which inventory records are maintained and updated continuously as items are purchased or sold.

(b) If the distributor or wholesaler does not have a cycle count inventory system and perpetual inventory system in place, the monthly statement shall be based on the inventory on hand at the end of the month covered by the report. However, at least once every six months, the monthly statement shall be based on a physical inventory of cigarettes on hand performed within the last five days of the month for which the distributor's or wholesaler's report is filed.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968.

#### Regulation 4023. INVENTORIES OF STAMPS AND METER UNITS.

Reference: Sections 30182, 30453, 30454, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every distributor engaged in the sale of cigarettes shall keep daily records of the number of tax stamps and meter units used in <a href="https://histor.com/histhedistributor">histhedistributor</a>'s affixing operations and shall record daily the meter register readings of the meters employed. <a href="https://hetr.com/hetr.com/hetr.com/histhedistributor">HeThe distributor</a> shall take physical inventories of unused tax stamps on hand as of the end of each month and shall furnish, with <a href="https://histhedistributor">histhedistributor</a>'s affixed and affixed tax stamps and meter units on hand at the end of the month covered by the report.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended September 13, 1961.

#### Regulation 4026. DISTRIBUTOR'S RECORDS.

Reference: Section 30453, 30454, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every distributor engaged in the sale of cigarettes shall keep complete and accurate records of all transactions in cigarettes and such other records, including copies of all reports to the board, as may be required by the board. All records shall be kept and maintained at the licensed premises of the distributor in this State, unless written permission has been granted by the board to keep and maintain the records at some other location. Such records shall be available at all times for inspection by employees of the board.

# (a) DEFINITIONS.

- (1) "Database Management System"—a software system that controls, relates, retrieves, and provides accessibility to data stored in a database.
- (2) "Electronic data interchange" or EDI technology"—the computer to computer exchange of business transactions in a standardized structured electronic format.
- (3) "Hardcopy" —any document, record, report, or other maintained in a paper format.
- (4) "Machine-sensible record"---a collection of related information in an electronic format. Machine –sensible records do not include hardcopy records that are created or recorded on paper or stored in or by a storage-only imaging system such as microfilm or microfiche.

# (5) "Distributor"---includes:

- (a) Every person who, after 4 o'clock a.m. on July 1, 1959, and within the meaning of the term "distribution" as defined in the Revenue and Taxation Code, distributes cigarettes.
- (b) Every person who, on or after 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 1989, and within the meaning of the term "distribution" as defined in the Revenue and Taxation Code, distributes tobacco products.
- (c) Every person who sells or accepts orders for cigarettes or tobacco products which are to be transported from a point outside this State to a consumer within this State.

## (6) "Wholesaler" includes:

- (a) Any person, other than a licensed distributor, who engages in this state in making sales for resale of cigarettes that are contained in packages to which are affixed stamps or meter impressions.
- (b) Any person, other than a licensed distributor, who engages in this state in making sales for resale of tobacco products on which the tax imposed in Section 30123 has been paid.

# (b) GENERAL.

- (1) A distributor or wholesaler shall maintain and make available for examination on request by the board or its authorized representative, all records necessary to determine the correct tax liability under the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Tax Law and all records necessary for the proper completion of the return. Such records include but are not limited to:
  - (A) Normal books of account ordinarily maintained by the average prudent businessperson engaged in the activity in question.
  - **(B)** Bills, receipts, invoices, cash register tapes, or other documents of original entry supporting the entries in the books of account.
  - (C) Schedules or working papers used in connection with the preparation of tax returns.
- (2) Machine-sensible records are considered records under Revenue and Taxation Code Sections 30453 and 30454.

## (c) MACHINE SENSIBLE RECORDS.

# (1) General.

- (A) Machine-sensible records used to establish tax compliance shall contain sufficient source document (transaction-level) information so that the details underlying the machine-sensible records can be identified and made available to the board upon request. A distributor or wholesaler has discretion to discard duplicated records and redundant information provided the integrity of the audit trail is preserved and the responsibilities under this regulation are met.
- (B) At the time of an examination, the retained records must be capable of being retrieved and converted to a standard magnetic record format e.g. Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Core (EBCDIC) or American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) flat file.
- (C) Distributors and wholesalers are not required to construct machine-sensible records other than those created in the ordinary course of business. A distributor or wholesaler who does not create the electronic equivalent of a traditional paper document in the ordinary course of business is not required to construct such a record for tax purposes.

# (2) Electronic Data Interchange Requirements.

(A)Where a distributor or wholesaler uses electronic data interchange (EDI) processes and technology, the level of record detail, in combination with other records related to the transactions, must be equivalent to that contained in an acceptable paper record. For example, the retained records should contain such information as vendor name, invoice date, product description, quantity purchased, price, amount of tax, indication of tax status (e.g., for resale), and shipping detail. Codes may be used to identify some or all of the data elements, provided the

- taxpayer maintains a method which allows the board to interpret the coded information.
- (B) The distributor or wholesaler may capture the information necessary to satisfy subdivision (c) (2) (A) at any level within the accounting system and need not retain the original EDI transaction records provided the audit trail, authenticity of the retained records can be established. For example a distributor or wholesaler, using EDI technology receives electronic invoices from its suppliers. The distributor or wholesaler decides to retain the invoice data from completed and verified EDI transactions in its accounts payable system rather than to retain the EDI transactions themselves. Since neither the EDI transaction nor the accounts payable system capture information from the invoice pertaining to product description and vendor name (i.e., they contain only codes for that information), the distributor or wholesaler must also retain other records, such as its vendor master file and product code description lists, and make them available to the board. In this example, the distributor or wholesaler need not retain its EDI transaction for tax purposes.
- (3) Electronic Data Processing Systems Requirements. The requirements for an electronic data processing (EDP) accounting system should be similar to that of a manual accounting system, in that an adequately designed accounting system should incorporate methods and records that will satisfy the requirements of this regulation.

# (4) Business Process Information.

- (A) Upon request of the board, the distributor or wholesaler shall provide a description of the business process that created the retained records. Such description shall include the relationship between the records and the tax documents prepared by the distributor or wholesaler and the measures employed to ensure the integrity of the records.
- **(B)** The distributor or wholesaler shall be capable of demonstrating:
  - 1. the functions being performed as they relate to the flow of data through the system;
  - 2. the internal controls used to ensure accurate and reliable processing, and;
  - 3. the internal controls used to prevent unauthorized addition, alteration, or deletion of retained records.
- (C) The following specific documentation is required for machine-sensible records retained pursuant to this regulation:
  - 1. record formats or layouts;
  - 2. field definitions (including the meaning of all codes used to represent information);
  - 3. file descriptions (e.g., data set name); and
  - 4. detailed charts of accounts and account descriptions.

### (d) MACHINE-SENSIBLE RECORDS MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS.

- (1) The distributor's or wholesaler's computer hardware or software shall accommodate the extraction and conversion of retained machine-sensible records to a standard magnetic record format as provided in subdivision (c) (1) (B).
- (2) The board recommends but does not require that distributors and wholesalers refer to the National Archives and Record Administration's' (NARA) standards for guidance on the maintenance and storage of electronic records, such as the labeling of records, the location and security of the storage environment, the creation of back-up copies, and the use of periodic testing to confirm the continued integrity of the records.

# (e) ACCESS TO MACHINE-SENSIBLE RECORDS.

- (1) The manner in which the board is provided access to machine-sensible records may be satisfied through a variety of means that shall take into account a distributor's or wholesaler's facts and circumstances through consultation with them.
- (2) Such access will be provided in one or more the following manners:
  - (A) The distributor or wholesaler may arrange to provide the board with the hardware, software, and personnel resources to access the machine-sensible records.
  - **(B)** The distributor or wholesaler may arrange for a third party to provide the hardware, software, and personnel resources necessary to access the machinesensible records.
  - (C) The distributor or wholesaler may convert the machine-sensible records to a standard records format specified by the board, including copies of files, on a magnetic medium that is agreed to by the board.
  - **(D)** The distributor or wholesaler and the board may agree on other means of providing access to the machine-sensible records.

# (f) RESPONSIBILITY AND DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.

- (1) In conjunction with meeting the requirements of subdivision (c), a distributor or wholesaler may create files solely for the use of the board. For example, if a data base management system is used, it is consistent with this regulation for the distributor or wholesaler to create and retain a file that contains the transaction-level detail from the date base management system and that meets the requirements of subdivision (c). The distributor or wholesaler should document the process that created the separate file to show the relationship between that file and the original records.
- (2) A distributor or wholesaler may contact with a third party to provide custodial or management services of the records. Such a contract shall not relieve them of their responsibilities under this regulation

# (g) HARDCOPY RECORDS.

(1) Except as specifically provided, a distributor or wholesaler is not relieved of the responsibility to retain hardcopy records that are created or received in the ordinary course of business as required by existing law and regulations. Hardcopy records may be retained on a record keeping medium as provided in subdivision (h).

- (2) If hardcopy transaction level documents are not produced or received in the ordinary course of transacting business (e.g., when electronic data interchange technology), such hardcopy records need not be created.
- (3) Hardcopy records generated at the time of a transaction using a credit or debit card must be retained unless all the details necessary to determine correct tax liability relating to the transaction are subsequently received and retained by the distributor or wholesaler in accordance with this regulation. Such details include those listed in subdivision (c)(2)(A).
- (4) Computer printouts that are created for validation, control, or other temporary purposes need not be retained.

# (h) ALTERNATIVE STORAGE MEDIA.

- (1) For purposes of storage and retention, a distributor or wholesaler may convert hardcopy documents received or produced in the normal course of business and required to be retained under this regulation to storage-only imaging media such as microfilm or microfiche and may discard the original hardcopy documents, provided the conditions of this subdivision are met. Documents which may be stored on these media include, but are not limited to general books of account, journals, voucher registers, general and subsidiary ledgers, and supporting records of details, such as sales invoices, purchase invoices, and credit memoranda.
- (2) Storage-only imaging media such as microfilm or microfiche systems shall meet the following requirements.
  - (A) Documentation establishing the procedures for converting the hardcopy documents to the storage-only imaging system must be maintained and made available on request. Such documentation shall, at a minimum, contain a sufficient description to allow an original document to be followed through the conversion system as well as internal procedures established for inspection and quality assurance.
  - (B) Procedures must be established for the effective identification, processing, storage, and preservation of the stored documents and for making them available for the period they are required to be retained under subdivision (i).
  - (C) Upon request by the board, a distributor or wholesaler must provide facilities and equipment for reading, locating, and reproducing any documents maintained on storage-only imaging media.
  - (D) When displayed on such equipment or reproduced on paper, the documents must exhibit a high degree of legibility and readability. For this purpose, legibility is defined as the quality of a letter or numeral that enables the observer to identify it positively and quickly to the exclusion of all other letters or numerals. Readability is defined as the quality of a group of letters or numerals being recognizable as words or complete numbers.
  - (E) All data on storage-only imaging media must be maintained and arranged in a manner that permits the location of any particular record.
  - **(F)** There is no substantial evidence that the storage-only imaging medium lacks authenticity or integrity.

# (i) RECORD RETENTION-TIME PERIOD.

All records required to be retained under this regulation must be preserved for a period of not less than four years unless the State Board of Equalization authorizes in writing their destruction within a lesser period.

# (j) RECORD RETENTION LIMITATION AGREEMENTS.

- (1) The board has the authority to enter into or revoke a record retention limitation agreement with the distributor or wholesaler to modify or waive any of the specific requirements in this regulation. A distributor's or wholesaler's request for an agreement must specify which records (if any) they propose not to retain and provide the reasons for not retaining such records, as well as, proposing any other terms of the requested agreement. The distributor or wholesaler shall remain subject to all requirements of this regulation that are not modified, waived, or superseded by a duly approved record retention limitation agreement.
  - (A) If a distributor or wholesaler seeks to limit its retention of machinesensible records, they may request a record retention limitation agreement, which shall:
  - 1. document understandings reached with the board, which may include, but is not limited to any one or more of the following issues:
  - a. the conversion of files created on an obsolete computer system;
  - b. restoration of lost or damaged files and the actions to be taken;
  - c. use of distributor or wholesaler computer resources, and
  - 2. specifically identify which of the distributor's or wholesaler's records the board determines are not necessary for retention and which they may discard, and
  - 3. authorize variances, if any, from the normal provisions of this regulation.
  - **(B)** The board shall consider a request for a record retention limitation agreement and notify the distributor or wholesaler of the actions to be taken.
  - (C) The board's decision to enter or not to enter into a record retention limitation agreement shall not relieve the distributor or wholesaler of the responsibility to keep adequate and complete records supporting entries shown on any tax information return.
- (2) A distributor's and wholesaler's record retention practices shall be subject to evaluation by the board when a record retention limitation agreement exists. The evaluation may include a review of the distributor's or wholesaler's relevant data processing and accounting systems with respect to EDP systems, including systems using EDI technology.
  - (A) The board shall notify the distributor or wholesaler of the results of any evaluation, including acceptance or disapproval of any proposals made by them (e.g., to discard certain records) or any changes considered necessary to bring the distributor's or wholesaler's practices into compliance with this regulation.
  - **(B)** Since the evaluation of a distributor's or wholesaler's record retention practices is not directly related to the determination of tax reporting accuracy for a particular period or return, an evaluation made under this regulation is

- not an "examination of records" under section 30454 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (C) Unless otherwise specified, an agreement shall not apply to accounting and tax systems added subsequent to the completion of the record evaluation. All machine-sensible records produced by a subsequently added accounting or tax system shall be retained by the distributor and wholesaler in accordance with this regulation until a new evaluation is conducted by the board.
- (D) Unless otherwise specified, an agreement made under this subdivision shall not apply to any person, company, corporation, or organization that, subsequent to the distributor's or wholesaler's signing of a record retention limitation agreement, acquires or is acquired by the distributor or wholesaler. All machine-sensible records produced by the acquired or the acquiring person, company, corporation, or organization, shall be retained pursuant to this regulation.
- (3) In addition to the record retention evaluation under subdivision (j)(2), the board may conduct tests to establish the authenticity, readability, completeness, and integrity of the machine-sensible records retained under a record retention limitation agreement. The state shall notify the distributor or wholesaler of the results of such tests. These tests may include the testing of EDI and other procedures and a review of the internal controls and security procedures associated with the creation and storage of the records.

### (k) FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RECORDS.

Failure to maintain and keep complete and accurate records may be considered evidence of negligence or intent to evade the tax and may result in penalties or other appropriate administrative action.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

#### Regulation 4027. MANUFACTURER'S RECORDS AND MONTHLY REPORT.

Reference: Sections 30453, 30454, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) Every cigarette manufacturer or tobacco products manufacturer dealing in, transporting, storing or warehousing cigarettes or tobacco products in this state or otherwise engaged in business in this state as a distributor shall keep and maintain at his place of business in this state, or at the warehouses or storage places from which he releases or delivers cigarettes or tobacco products are released or delivered by the manufacturer, a record of all releases or deliveries of cigarettes or tobacco products from each storage place or warehouse in this state and shall keep and maintain either within the state or at his the manufacturer's home office a record of all histhe manufacturer's shipments of cigarettes or tobacco products from points outside this state to points within this state. Such records shall be made available at any time during normal business hours to the board or its authorized representatives for examination upon request. The records shall show the information necessary to be included in the reports required by paragraph (b) of this section.
- **(b)** Each such cigarette <u>or tobacco products</u> manufacturer <u>described in paragraph (a)</u> <u>above</u> shall deliver to the board by the 20th day of each calendar month a report in writing with respect to all releases and deliveries of cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> in this state and all shipments of cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> from a point outside this state to a point within this state made or authorized by <u>him</u> the manufacturer during the preceding calendar month. The releases, deliveries and shipments for each purchaser shall be grouped together in the report. The report shall be in a form prescribed by the board and shall show the following information with respect to each release, delivery or shipment:
- (1) the date of the release, delivery or shipment;
- (2) the location from which the release, delivery or shipment was made;
- (3) the name and address of the purchaser;
- (4) the address of the place to which the cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> were shipped, released or consigned;
- (5) the number of cigarettes <u>or type</u>, <u>quantity and wholesale cost of tobacco products</u> released, delivered or shipped;
- (6) the invoice or document number and date thereof representing the release, delivery or shipment;
- (7) if released to a licensed distributor, the license number of such distributor; and
- (8) in the case of a cancellation of any release, delivery or shipment, information indicating the transaction was cancelled.

The above information need not be supplied with respect to cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> which are non-tax-paid under the provisions of Chapter 52 of the Internal Revenue Act of 1954, as amended, and are released, delivered or shipped in internal revenue bond or customs control.

**(c)** In lieu of the monthly reports required by paragraph (b) of this section, a manufacturer may arrange with the board to supply the required information by supplying data processing media or other data in such manner and in such format as is satisfactory to the board.

*History:* Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended September 13, 1961. Amended November 3, 1967.

# Regulation 4028. PERIOD FOR WHICH RECORDS TO BE KEPT.

All records required by law or regulations to be kept by distributors and wholesalers shall be kept and preserved for a period of four years. During the four-year period and at any time prior to actual destruction of records the board may give written notice to a distributor or wholesaler not to destroy records described in the notice. The records described in the notice shall be kept and preserved until the board gives written permission to the distributor or wholesaler for their destruction.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.
Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968.

#### Regulation 4034. REPORT OF SHIPMENTS TO CONSUMERS.

Reference: Sections 30453, 30454, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) Every person who sells or solicits orders for cigarettes the use or consumption of which is subject to the tax must file reports with the board as follows:
- (1) If the person is engaged in business in this state and is required to be a licensed <u>cigarette</u> distributor, he <u>or she</u> shall report on the distributor's monthly report form prescribed by the board the number of cigarettes with respect to which he <u>or she</u> was required to collect the tax and such other information as is required on the report form. The report shall be filed on or before the 25th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the cigarettes were delivered in this state.
- (2) If the person is engaged in business in this state and is required to be a registered <u>cigarette</u> distributor, he <u>or she</u> shall file a report <u>or return</u> with the board on or before the 25th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the cigarettes were delivered in this state showing:
- (A) the name and address of each purchaser from whom an order was taken;
- (B) the number of cigarettes sold and delivered pursuant to each order; and
- **(C)** the amount of tax required to be collected from each purchaser.
- (b) Every person who sells or solicits orders for tobacco products, the use or consumption of which is subject to the tax, must file reports or returns with the board as follows:
  - (1) If the person is engaged in business in this state and is required to be a licensed tobacco products distributor, he or she shall report on the tobacco products distributor's monthly tax return form prescribed by the board the wholesale cost of all tobacco products distributed to consumers and such other information as is required on the return. The return shall be filed on or before the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the tobacco products were delivered in this state.
- (2) If the person is engaged in business in this state and is required to be a registered tobacco products distributor, he or she shall file a report or return with the board on or before the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the tobacco products were delivered in this state showing:
  - (A) the name and address of each purchaser from whom an order was taken;
- (B) the type, quantity, and wholesale cost of tobacco products sold and delivered pursuant to each order; and
- (C) the amount of tax required to be collected from each purchaser, together with a remittance of such tax.
- (bc) Every person engaged in business in this state who, as permitted by state law or pursuant to the terms of the November 23, 1998 Master Settlement Agreements with the state which are applicable to the signatories to those Agreements, and makesmaking gifts of untaxed cigarettes or tobacco products as samples by means of shipment from an out-of-state point directly to a done in this state shall at the time of making the gift, or, if the done is not then obligated to pay the tax, at the time the done becomes so obligated, collect the tax from the done if the done is other than a licensed distributor and shall give the done a receipt showing the name and place of business of the donor, the name and address of the done, the number of cigarettes donated, and the amount of tax

required to be collected, or the type, quantity and wholesale cost of the tobacco products donated and a statement indicating that the tobacco products tax has been paid.

Each package of such—sample cigarettes shall have imprinted on it: "Not for Sale. Applicable state tax has been paid-" and each package of sample tobacco products shall be clearly marked as a sample.

Donors of sample cigarettes shall notify the board in writing in advance of the shipment of the cigarettes into the state giving information as to the approximate date or dates, location or locations, brand, volume of the sample and the method of shipment into the state. Each such donor shall file a report with the board on or before the 25th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the cigarettes were delivered in this state showing the number of cigarettes shipped into the state and the amount of tax required to be collected from each donee together with a remittance of such tax.

(ed) The taxes required to be collected constitute debts owed by the distributor, or other person required to collect the taxes, to this state.

(de)"Engaged in business in the state" means and includes any of the following:

- (1) Maintaining, occupying, or using, permanently or temporarily, directly or indirectly, or through a subsidiary, or agent, by whatever name called, an office, place of distribution, sales or sample room or place, warehouse or storage place or other place of business.
- (2) Having any representative, agent, sales<del>manperson</del>, canvasser or solicitor operating in this state under the authority of the distributor or its subsidiary for the purpose of selling, delivering, or the taking of orders for cigarettes.
- (ef) The requirements of this regulation do not apply to those distributions of federally tax-free cigarettes or tobacco products to certain veteran's institutions which distributions are exempt from tax under Section 30105.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended January 12, 1968. Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968. Amended April 11, 1972, effective May 14, 1972.

### Regulation 4041. COMMON CARRIER DELIVERY REPORTS.

Reference: Section 30186, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every common carrier making a delivery of cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> to a consignee in this State, the shipment of which originated outside this State shall report to the board not later than the 25th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the delivery of the cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> was made, the following information concerning the shipment:

- (a) the name of the shipper and the point of origin;
- (b) the name of the consignee and the address to which delivered;
- (c) the date and number of the waybill covering the shipment;
- (d) the number of cases, bales or other containers of cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> delivered and the quantity of cigarettes <u>or type, quantity, and wholesale cost of tobacco products</u> contained therein as shown by the shipping documents; and
- (e) in the case of rail shipments, the car initials and number; and
- (f) in the case of water shipments, the name of the vessel and the number of the steamship bill of lading.

This report shall be made on a form prescribed by and filed with the board at Sacramento.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968.

# Regulation 4047. TRANSFER OF STAMPS.

Reference: Section 30164, Revenue and Taxation Code.

<u>Without prior written approval of the board, Aa</u> distributor shall <u>may</u> not sell to, transfer to, or exchange with another distributor or any other person stamps issued by the board, <u>and may</u>. A distributor shall not sell, transfer or distribute packages of cigarettes accompanied by unaffixed stamps.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

### Regulation 4055. WHERE PURCHASED; DISTRIBUTORS' DISCOUNT.

Reference: Section 30161, 30166, 30167, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Cigarette tax stamps and meter register settings allowing the imprinting of meter impressions may be purchased by licensed distributors at designated branch offices of banks located throughout the State. A list of the bank branch offices designated to sell stamps and set meter registers is available at offices of the board locations designated by the Board. The tax stamps and meter register settings may be purchased for cash, and when authority has been granted in writing to a distributor, the tax indicia stamps and meter register settings may be purchased on a deferred payment basis. In either case, a discount as provided by law will be allowed to a licensed distributor.

*History:* Adopted September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968.

#### Regulation 4056. UNITS OF SALE; MINIMUM SALES.

Reference: Section 30161, Revenue and Taxation Code

Heat-applied decal tax stamps of the denominated value of 1087¢ each are sold in rolls containing 30,000 stamps. Such stamps are sold in full rolls only and the smallest sale unit is one roll. Heat-applied decal tax stamp of the denominated value of 87¢ each are sold in sheets containing 150 stamps. The smallest sale unit of this type of stamp is one sheet. Heatapplied decal tax stamps for the denominated value of \$1.075 each are sold in rolls containing 7,200 stamps. Such stamps are sold in full rolls only and the smallest sale unit is one roll. Heatapplied decal tax stamps of the denominated value of 43.5¢ each are sold in sheets containing 100 stamps. The smallest sale unit for this type of stamp is one sheet. Water-applied decal tax stamps of the denominated value of 10¢ each are sold in sheets containing 100 stamps. The sheets are contained in pads of 10 sheets. The smallest sale unit for this type of stamp is one pad of 10 sheets totaling 1000 stamps. Water-applied decal tax stamps of the denominated value of 5¢ each are sold in sheets containing 100 stamps. The smallest sale unit for this type of stamp is one sheet of 100 stamps. The Board, at its discretion, may authorize the use of stamps of other denominated values and specifications. Meter register settings are sold in multiples of 100 digits on a meter register. (One digit allows the imprinting of ten meter impressions of the denominated value of 10¢ per individual impression.) The minimum quantity of meter register digits sold in one transaction is 1000 digits set on a meter register.

History: Adopted September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968. Amended June 22, 1983, effective October 6, 1983. Added sentence authorizing use of stamps of "other denominated values and specifications."

## Regulation 4057. CASH SALES OF TAX INDICIA STAMPS OR METER REGISTER SETTINGS.

Reference: Section 30161, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every distributor desiring to purchase tax stamps or meter register settings for cash shall file a "Cigarette Tax Signature Card" on a form approved by the board, with the designated <u>location bank branch office where he or she</u> will make his <u>or her</u> cash purchases of the tax <u>indiciastamps or meter register settings</u>. Orders for stamps or meter register <u>designated location</u> on order forms approved by the distributor to such <u>bank branch office designated location</u> on order forms approved by the board. Payment must be made for cash purchases at the time the stamps <u>or meter register settings</u> are received. <u>-or the meter is set and sealed. The State requires the bank to make an immediate deposit into the State Treasury for cash purchases and the bank is not permitted to extend credit therefor on behalf of the State. The <u>designated location bank</u> may require cash, or certified or cashier's checks in payment of such purchases.</u>

History: Adopted September 13, 1961.

#### Regulation 4058. APPLICATION FOR CREDIT PURCHASES.

Reference: Sections 30142, 30167, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every distributor desiring to purchase tax stamps or meter register settings on the deferred payment basis shall request the board to set the maximum amount of such purchases the distributor may have unpaid at any time and the amount of the required bondsecurity.

The board shall set the amounts and sendnotify the distributor form BT-353 by mail showing of the maximum amount of deferred payment purchases that the distributor may have unpaid at any time and the amount of the required bondsecurity. The maximum amount of indiciatax stamps or meter register settings purchases for which the distributor may defer payment as determined by the board shall be set by the board at not to exceed twice one and one half times the distributor's average monthly tax liability, based on the distributor's previous six months' experience, or in the case of a distributor not previously authorized to make deferred payment purchases or a distributor the character of whose business has changed substantially, the maximum amount shall not exceed twice be set at one and one-half times the estimated average monthly tax liability as determined by the board.

The distributor shall indicate on the form the location of the designated bank branch office where the purchases will be made, sign the form and send it to the board in Sacramento. If the distributor wishes to make credit purchases at more than one location, the distributor shall file a form BT-353 for each location, but may file one bond covering all locations. The distributor shall provide to the board Aa surety bond or deposit in lieu of security shall accompany the application and shall be in an amount equal to not less than 70 percent of the total maximum amount, or more than twice the amount of deferred payment purchases the distributor may have unpaid at any time as determined by the board.

*History:* Adopted September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968. Amended October 25, 1972, effective November 30, 1972.

## Regulation 4059. AUTHORIZATION FOR CREDIT PURCHASES.

Reference: Sections 30167, 30169, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) Upon receipt of the completed application approval of a distributor's request to purchase tax stamps or meter register settings on the deferred payment basis, and receipt of the required security, the board shall give written authorization for the amount of deferred payment purchases the distributor may have unpaid at any time to the distributor and the bank branch designated location where such purchases are to be made.
- **(b)** Before making deferred payment purchases of tax indicia, stamps and meter register settings, the distributor shall file a "Cigarette Tax Signature Card" on a form approved by the board with each designated bank branch officelocation where he the distributor will make his credit purchases. The distributor shall authorize in writing on the card those persons who may order purchases of stamps or meter register settings for his this distributor's account at each designated bank branch officelocation. The distributor's authorization of such persons shall continue in effect until written notice of revocation of the authority is delivered to the bank branch officedesignated location by registered or certified mail or until written acknowledgement of receipt of the revocation is given by the bank branch office to the distributor.
- **(c)** Orders for stamps or meter register <u>digits to be setsettings</u> shall be made by the distributor to the <u>bank branch offices</u>designated location on order forms approved by the board.

*History:* Adopted September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968.

## Regulation 4060. PAYMENT FOR CREDIT PURCHASES.

Reference: Section 30161, 30168. Revenue and Taxation Code.

Payment for all deferred payment purchases of tax indiciastamps or meter register settings made during each calendar month must be made at the bank branch officedesignated location where the purchases were made, and must be made by the 25th day of the calendar month following the month in which the purchases were made. Remittance for such purchases shall be made payable to "State Board of Equalization." The privilege of making deferred payment purchases shall be suspended as long as a delinquent balance is owing therefor.

*History:* Adopted September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968. Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968.

### Regulation 4062. DESTROYED STAMPS AND METERS.

Reference: Sections 30177, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The board will refund or credit to a distributor the denominated value, less the purchase discount, of any stamps, or <u>unused</u> meter register settings, remaining on a meter, when the stamps or the meter have been destroyed by fire, flood or other casualty prior to the affixation of the <u>indicia</u> tax stamps or meter impressions to packages of cigarettes. The distributor must establish by clear and convincing evidence that the stamps or meter were destroyed by fire, flood or other casualty and the denominated value of the stamps or remaining meter register balance. Theft or <u>mysterous</u> disappearance of unaffixed stamps or of a meter shall not constitute a casualty for which refund or credit will be given.

History: Adopted January 12, 1968.

Former Regulation 4062 amended and renumbered 4065 January 12, 1968.

### Regulation 4063. DESTROYED CIGARETTES.

Reference: Section 30177, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The board will refund or credit to a distributor the denominated value, less the purchase discount, of stamps or meter impressions affixed to packages of cigarettes which have been destroyed by fire, flood or other casualty, prior to distribution. The distributor must establish by clear and convincing evidence that the cigarettes were destroyed by fire, flood or other casualty prior to distribution and the denominated value of the affixed indiciatax stamps or meter impressions. The theft or mysterious disappearance of packages of cigarettes shall not constitute a casualty for which refund or credit will be given.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended August 3, 1960. Amended September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968.

# Regulation 4063.5 EXPORTED TAX-PAID TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Reference: Sections 30176.1, 30178.1, 30178.2, 30179.1, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The board will refund or credit to a distributor the tax paid on tobacco products which are:

- (a) Shipped to a point outside this state, pursuant to a contract of sale, by delivery by the distributor to such point by means of:
- (1) facilities operated by the distributor;
- (2) delivery by the distributor to a carrier for shipment to a consignee at such point, or
- (3) delivery by the distributor to a customs broker or forwarding agent for shipment outside this state.
- (b) Sold to a foreign purchaser for shipment abroad and delivered to a ship, airplane, or other conveyance furnished by the purchaser for the purpose of carrying the cigarettes or tobacco products abroad and actually carried to a foreign destination.
- (c) Sold for use solely outside this state and delivered to a forwarding agent, export packer, or other person engaged in the business of preparing goods for export or arranging for their exportation, and actually delivered to a port outside the continental limits of the United States.

The distributor must provide bills of lading or other documentary evidence of the delivery of the tobacco products to a carrier, customs broker or forwarding agent for shipments outside this state. This evidence must be retained by the distributor for inspection by employees of the board. In the case of tobacco products for foreign export, copies of United Stated Customs shipper's export declarations filed with the Collector for Customs or other documentary evidence of export must be obtained and retained. No refund or credit will be given if the tobacco products are diverted in transit or for any reason are not actually delivered outside the state pursuant to the contract of sale or are not shipped aboard by a foreign purchaser. Any application for refund or credit based upon the exportation of tax-paid tobacco products from this state shall be filed with the board within three months after the close of the calendar month in which the tobacco products are exported.

# Regulation 4064. CLAIM FORMS.

Reference: Section 30110, Revenue and Taxation Code.

A claim for refund or credit made pursuant to Regulations 4061, 4062 or 4063 or 4063.5 must be made on a form prescribed by and filed with the board.

History: Adopted January 12, 1968.

Former Regulation 4064 renumbered 4067 January 12, 1968.

## Regulation 4065. UNUSABLE CIGARETTES.

Reference: Section 30177, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The board will refund or credit to a distributor the denominated value, less the purchase discount, of identifiable stamps or meter impressions affixed to packages of cigarettes which have become unfit for use or unsalable before distribution, or after distribution if the cigarettes have been returned for credit or have been replaced and proof is submitted to the board showing that the cigarettes have not been used for smoking in California. Claim for refund or credit must be made on a form prescribed by the board and shall be accompanied by a properly executed receipt and a copy of the credit memorandum of the manufacturer for returned stock, or by proof of destruction of the cigarettes with the tax indiciastamps or meter impressions thereon in the presence of an employee of the board authorized to witness the destruction.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

Formerly Regulation 4062 amended and renumbered 4065 January 12, 1968.

# Regulation 4067. PROVISIONS LIMITED TO DISTRIBUTORS.

Reference: Sections 30176, 30177, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The refund and credit provisions of Sections 30176 and 30177 of the Cigarette Tax Law apply only to distributors. Refunds and credits for unused stamps, and meter impressions and for stamps or meter impressions affixed to packages of cigarettes which have become unfit for use, unsalable or destroyed may not be made by the board to dealers or others.

*History:* Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended September 13, 1961. Formerly Regulation 4064 renumbered 4067 January 12, 1968.

### Regulation 4079. IN BOND FEDERAL TAX-FREE CIGARETTES.

Reference: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, United States Constitution.

The tax does not apply to sales of cigarettes where all three of the following conditions exist:

- (a) The cigarettes sold are exempt from the Federal tax on cigarettes under the provisions of Chapter 52 of the Internal Revenue Act of 1954; and
- (b) The cigarettes are under the Federal bond required to secure their exemption from the Federal tax and are to leave the State under Federal Customs control; and
- (c) The cigarettes are sold for shipment to foreign countries or for use as ship's supplies which are to be consumed or resold on the high seas or in foreign countries.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended August 3, 1960.

#### Regulation 4080. INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE.

Reference: Section 30108, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The tax does not apply to sales of cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> which are: (a) Shipped to a point outside this State, pursuant to a contract of sale, by delivery by the seller to such point by means of:

- (1) facilities operated by the seller;
- (2) delivery by the seller to a carrier for shipment to a consignee at such point, or
- (3) delivery by the seller to a customs broker or forwarding agent for shipment outside this State.
- (b) Sold to a foreign purchaser for shipment abroad and delivered to a ship, airplane, or other conveyance furnished by the purchaser for the purpose of carrying the cigarettes or tobacco products abroad and actually carried to a foreign destination.
- (c) Sold for use solely outside this State and delivered to a forwarding agent, export packer, or other person engaged in the business of preparing goods for export or arranging for their exportation, and actually delivered to a port outside the continental limits of the United States.

Bills of lading or other documentary evidence of the delivery of the cigarettes or tobacco products to a carrier, customs broker or forwarding agent for shipments outside the State must be retained by the distributor for inspection by employees of the board. In the case of cigarettes or tobacco products for foreign export, copies of United States Customs shippers' export declarations filed with the Collector of Customs or other documentary evidence of export must be obtained and retained. The tax applies to the transaction if the cigarettes or tobacco products are diverted in transit or for any reason are not actually delivered outside the State pursuant to the contract of sale or are not shipped abroad by a foreign purchaser, regardless of documentary evidence held by the distributor.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

### Regulation 4081. SAMPLE CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

Reference: Sections 30005, 30008, 30009, 30105, Revenue and Taxation Code.

The giving away in this state of untaxed cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> as samples is a taxable distribution.

Manufacturers' agents or representatives may for advertising purposes, as permitted by state law or pursuant to the terms of the November 23, 1998 Master Settlement Agreements with the state which are applicable to the signatories to those Agreements, distribute to consumers packages of cigarettes without stamps or meter impressions affixed to the packages or untaxed tobacco products. However, the manufacturer giving away such sample cigarettes or tobacco products must report the distribution on its monthly report or return and pay the tax due. Each package of such samples cigarettes shall have imprinted on it: "Not for Sale. Applicable state tax has been paid." and each package of sample tobacco products shall be clearly marked as sample.

<u>Cigarette Mmanufacturers</u> shall notify the board in writing in advance of the sampling, giving information as to the approximate date or dates, location or locations, brand, <del>volume</del> and method of distribution.

*History:* Adopted September 13, 1961. Amended January 12, 1968. Amended April 11, 1972, effective May 14, 1972.

### Regulation 4082. CIGARETTES FOR HOSPITALIZED VETERANS.

Reference: Sections 30102.5, 30105.5, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Cigarettes upon which the United States government imposes no tax may be purchased by private persons directly from the manufacturer without the California cigarette tax being imposed, if as a part of the transaction the cigarettes are given to the Veterans Home of California at Yountville, California, or to a hospital or domiciliary facility of the United States Veterans Administration for gratuitous issue to the veterans receiving hospitalization or domiciliary care, and arrangements are made with the manufacturer that delivery of the cigarettes is made directly from the manufacturer to the institution under Internal Revenue control.

History: Adopted September 13, 1961, effective September 15, 1961.

#### Regulation 4091. PAYMENT BY CONSUMER.

Reference: Sections 30005, 30106, 30107, 30108, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) Each consumer or user of cigarettes <u>or tobacco products</u> subject to the tax, resulting from the consumer <del>his</del> having:
  - (1) purchased cigarettes or tobacco products in any quantity, when such which cigarettes or tobacco products are shipped to him the consumer from out of state,
  - (2) his having personally himself transported or brought into the state untaxed cigarettes in quantities of more than 400 cigarettes in a single lot for his or her own use or consumption, or
  - (3) having obtained more than 400 untaxed cigarettes at one time from a federal instrumentality listed in Revenue and Taxation Code Section 30102—of the Cigarette Tax Law, must pay the tax:(a) either to the licensed or registered distributor under the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Tax Law from whom the cigarettes or tobacco products were purchased, or (b) directly to the board if the person from whom the cigarettes or tobacco products were purchased is not a licensed or registered distributor.
- (b) Consumers or users will be liable for payment of the tax to the board unless receipts as provided by Regulation 4092 are obtained for payment of the tax to the distributor.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959. Amended September 13, 1961. Amended October 10, 1968, effective November 13, 1968. Amended November 5, 1970, effective December 10, 1970.

## Regulation 4092. RECEIPTS FOR TAX PAID TO DISTRIBUTORS.

Reference: Section 3018, Revenue and Taxation Code.

Every distributor required to collect the tax under <u>Revenue and Taxation</u> Section 30108 of the <u>Cigarette Tax Law</u> must give a receipt to each purchaser for the amount of tax collected. The receipt need not be in any particular form but must show the following:

- (a) the name and place of business of the distributor making the sale or accepting the order for cigarettes or tobacco products;
- (b) the license number or registration number of the distributor;
- (c) the name and address of the purchaser;
- (d) the number of cigarettes <u>or type</u>, <u>quantity</u>, <u>and wholesale cost of all tobacco products</u> purchased;
- (e) the date the cigarettes or tobacco products were purchased; and
- (f) the amount of tax collected by the distributor or statement indicating that the tobacco products tax has been paid.

A sales invoice containing the data required above, together with evidence of payment thereof, will constitute a receipt.

History: Adopted June 24, 1959.

### Regulation 4098. RELIEF FROM LIABILITY.

Reference: Section 30284, Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (a) IN GENERAL A person may be relieved from the liability for the payment of cigarette and tobacco products taxes, including any penalties and interest added to those taxes, when that liability resulted from the failure to make a timely return or a payment and such failure was found by the board to be due to reasonable reliance on:
  - (1) Written advice given by the board under the conditions set forth in subdivision (b) below, or
  - (2) Written advice in the form of an annotation or legal ruling of counsel under the conditions set forth in subdivision (d) below; or
  - (3) Written advice given by the board in a prior audit of that person under the conditions set forth in subdivision (c) below. As used in this regulation, the term "prior audit" means any audit conducted prior to the current examination where the issue in question was examined.

Written advice from the board may only be relied upon by the person to whom it was originally issued or a legal or statutory successor to that person. Written advice from the board which was received during a prior audit of the person under the conditions set forth in subdivision (c) below, may be relied upon by the person audited or by a legal or statutory successor to that person.

The term "written advice" includes advice that was incorrect at the time it was issued as well as advice that was correct at the time it was issued, but, subsequent to issuance, was invalidated by a change in statutory or constitutional law, by a change in board regulations, or by a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction. Prior written advice may not be relied upon subsequent to: (1) the effective date of a change in statutory or constitutional law and board regulations or the date of final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction regardless that the board did not provide notice of such action; or (2) the person receiving a subsequent writing notifying the person that the advice was not valid at the time it was issued or was subsequently rendered invalid. As generally used in this regulation, the term "written advice" includes both written advice provided in a written communication under subdivision (b) below and written advice provided in a prior audit of the person under subdivision (c) below.

- (b) ADVICE PROVIDED IN A WRITTEN COMMUNICATION. Advice from the board provided to the person in a written communication must have been in response to a specific written inquiry from the person seeking relief from liability, or from his or her representative. To be considered a specific written inquiry for purposes of this regulation, representatives must identify the specific person for whom the advice is requested. Such inquiry must have set forth and fully described the facts and circumstances of the activity or transactions for which the advice was requested.
- (c)WRITTEN ADVICE PROVIDED IN A PRIOR AUDIT. Presentation of the person's books and records for examination by an auditor shall be deemed to be written request for the audit report. If a prior audit report of the person requesting relief contains written evidence which demonstrates that the issue in question was examined, either in a sample or census (actual) review, such evidence will be considered "written advice from the board" for purposes of this regulation. A census (actual) review, as opposed to a sample review, involves examination of 100% of the person's transactions pertaining to the issue in question.

For written advice contained in a prior audit of the person to apply to the person's activity or transaction in question, the facts and conditions relating to the activity or transaction must not have changed from those which occurred during the period of operation in the prior audit. Audit comments, schedules, and other writings prepared by the board that become part of the audit work papers which reflect that the activity or transaction in question was properly reported and no amount was due are sufficient for a finding for relief from liability, unless it can be shown that the person seeking relief knew such advice was erroneous.

- (d) ANNOTATIONS AND LEGAL RULINGS OF COUNSEL. Advise from the board provided to the person in the form of an annotation or legal ruling of counsel shall constitute written advice only if:
- 1) The underlying legal ruling of counsel involving the fact pattern at issue is addressed to the person or to his or her representative under the conditions set forth in subdivision (b) above; or
- 2) The annotation or legal ruling of counsel is provided to the person or his or her representative by the board within the body of a written communication and involves the same fact pattern as that presented in the subject annotation or legal ruling of counsel.
- (e) TRADE OR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS. A trade or industry association requesting advise on behalf of its member(s) must identify and include the specific member names(s) for whom the advice is requested for relief from liability under this regulation.